

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claims 1-31. (Cancelled).

Claim 32. (Currently amended) A method for reducing plasma fibrinogen in a ~~mammal~~human having a pathological value of plasma fibrinogen ~~in need thereof~~, the method comprising administering to said ~~human~~mammal an effective amount of a pharmaceutical composition comprising at least one compound present in *Curcuma* rhizomes.

Claim 33. (Previously presented) The method according to Claim 32, wherein said at least one compound is present in the form of a *Curcuma* extract.

Claim 34. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 32, wherein the pharmaceutical composition comprises curcuminoids.

Claim 35. (Previously presented) The method according to Claim 32, wherein said at least compound is obtained by extracting *Curcuma* rhizomes using a solubilizing lipophilic compound.

Claim 36. (Previously presented) The method according to Claim 35, wherein said lipophilic compound is ethanol.

Claim 37. (Previously presented) The method according to Claim 35, wherein said at least one compound is in the form of an aqueous extract of *Curcuma*.

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Claim 38. (Currently amended) The method according to Claim 32, wherein said method results in a reduction of Apolipoprotein B/Apolipoprotein A-1 quotient in said human~~mammal~~.

Claim 39. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 32, wherein said *Curcuma* rhizomes are *Curcuma longa* rhizomes.

Claim 40. (Currently amended) The method according to Claim 32, wherein said human~~mammal~~ has cardiovascular disease.

Claim 41. (New) The method of Claim 32, wherein said pathological value of plasma fibrinogen is greater than about 450 mg/dl.